

screening the selection of stocks, the screening process including the substeps of

identifying the stocks from the specified selection having buyback ratios, wherein a buyback ratio corresponds to a percentage of issued stock repurchased from the public during a specified period and resulting in a decrease of shares outstanding, and

identifying a price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio in the group for each such stock of a subset of the stocks having buyback ratios, wherein the subset is determined based on the buyback ratio for each stock; and ranking stocks within the subset based on the price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio for each stock, wherein the stock having the lowest price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio is ranked the highest.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the database includes a market cap value table for identifying the market cap value of each company, and wherein the substep of identifying [a] the price/sales ratio or the price/earnings ratio includes the substeps of

selecting the price/sales ratio for the companies in a top half of market cap table; and

selecting the price/earnings ratio for the companies in a bottom half of market cap table.

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10. (Amended) A computerized investment management system for creating an investment report, comprising:

means for receiving a request specifying a selection of stocks from a database of stock information;

means for selecting criteria for screening the selection of stock, wherein the selected criteria consists of a buyback ratio and at least one of price/sales ratio and a price/earnings ratio for each stock,

means for screening the selection of stocks including

means for identifying the stocks from the specified selection having buyback ratios, wherein a buyback ratio corresponds to a percentage of issued stock repurchased from the public during a specified period and resulting in a decrease of shares outstanding, and

means for identifying a price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio in the group for each such stock of a subset of the stocks having buyback ratios, wherein the subset is determined based on the buyback ratio for each stock; and

means for ranking stocks within the subset based on the price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio for each stock, wherein the stock having the lowest price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio is ranked the highest.

11. (Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the database includes a market cap value table for identifying the market cap value of each company, and wherein

the means for identifying a price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio includes

means for selecting the price/sales ratio for the companies in a top half of market cap table; and

means for selecting the price/earnings ratio for the companies in a bottom half of market cap table.

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19. ^{readable medium containing instructions on controlling a data processing system} A computer ~~program product~~ for generating a buyback investment report comprising:

a receiving module configured to receive a request specifying a selection of stocks from a database of stock information;

a selecting module configured to select criteria for screening the selection of stock, wherein the selected criteria consists of a buyback ratio and at least one of price/sales ratio and a price/earnings ratio for each stock,

a screening module configured to screen the selection of stocks including

a first identifying module configured to identify the stocks from the specified selection having buyback ratios, wherein a buyback ratio corresponds to a percentage of issued stock repurchased from the public during a specified period and resulting in a decrease of shares outstanding, and

a second identifying module configured to identify a price/sales ratio or price/earnings ratio in the group for each such stock of a subset of

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